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2003 Weather Crop 05

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Week Ending May 4, 2003

COTTON PLANTING ON THE MOVE

Cotton planting was in full swing this past week despite occasional showers and thunderstorms, as producers advanced 13 percentage points ahead of the previous week. As of Sunday, 20 percent of the State’s acreage had been planted, lagging slightly behind last year and the 5-year average. Corn planted, at 85 percent, was in line with a year ago and continues to surpass the normal pace. The corn crop was rated in mostly good condition with nearly three-fourths of the crop emerged. Virtually, all of the State’s wheat has jointed with sixty-eight percent headed. Soybean planting continued with 4 percent of the acreage planted as of last week. Other field activities last week included transplanting tobacco, cutting hay, and applying fungicides and insecticides to crops. Temperatures averaged above normal across the State for the week, while rainfall amounts were quite variable. The assessment of hail and wind damage to crops and structures from the severe weather experienced on Sunday evening May 4 are not yet known. There were 4 days considered suitable for fieldwork last week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 2 percent short, 77 percent adequate, and 21 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 2 percent short, 82 percent adequate, and 16 percent surplus.

CROP PROGRESS: Through May 4, 2003					CONDITION: On May 2, 2003					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2002	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Winter Wheat - Jointed	99	94	99	100	Winter Wheat	0	5	19	60	16
Winter Wheat - Headed	68	32	75	81	Corn	0	0	16	66	18
Corn - Planted	85	80	85	81	Alfalfa Hay	0	1	22	62	15
Corn - Emerged	74	51	65	57	Other Hay	0	1	21	65	13
Cotton - Planted	20	7	28	24	Pastures	0	2	17	64	17
Soybeans - Planted	4	2	7	5	Cattle	0	2	19	65	14
Tobacco - Transplanted	4	N/A	6	4						
Alfalfa Hay - First Cutting	10	N/A	6	11						
Other Hay - First Cutting	7	N/A	5	7						
Apples - Blooming or Beyond	97	90	94	98						
Peaches - Blooming or Beyond	96	90	97	99						

**WHEAT:** Virtually, all of the State’s winter wheat had jointed with 68 percent headed. The wheat crop remains in good condition despite insects and diseases being spotted in some areas. Growers continued to apply fungicides and insecticides as needed.

**CORN:** As of Sunday, 85 percent of the corn acreage had been planted, ahead of the 5-year average and on pace with last year. The crop was rated in good-to-excellent condition with almost three-fourths emerged.

**COTTON:** Cotton planting advanced last week as producers made good progress from a week earlier. Twenty percent of the acreage has been planted, lagging only 4 points behind the normal pace.

**SOYBEANS:** Currently, 4 percent of the soybean acreage has been planted, just slightly behind the normal pace. Farmers will need drier soil conditions before kicking planting into high gear.

**TOBACCO:** Tobacco transplanting got underway this past week with 4 percent of the acreage set, slightly behind last year but in line with normal.

**PASTURES, HAY & CATTLE:** The first cutting of both alfalfa and other hay were underway last week. All other hay, except alfalfa, first cutting outpaced last year by 2 points and was line with the 5-year average. Eighty-one percent of the pasture acreage was rated in good-to-excellent condition. The recent moisture has aided pasture growth. Some producers were concerned about the hay crop becoming too ripe and losing quality before it can be harvested. Cattle were also rated in mostly good condition.

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION For week ending: 05/04/03 (with comparisons)										
LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending 05/04/03				Current Week	Rain	Current	From	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	05/04/03	Days	Since January 1	Normal	Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	88	48	70	+5	0.17	1	19.87	-0.31	153	+16
Tri-City_RGNL_A	81	43	64	+5	0.88	5	18.81	+4.66	67	+35
Brownsville_TN	86	53	70	+6	0.71	2	16.06	-3.88	165	+92
Chattanooga/Lov	85	49	68	+6	0.09	2	19.88	-0.72	147	+63
Clarksville_Sew	84	50	67	+6	0.52	4	14.28	-4.39	143	+55
Cookeville	84	43	65	+5	0.47	3	22.93	+2.56	98	+78
Covington	87	50	70	+6	0.12	1	15.58	-4.37	145	+35
Crossville_AP	80	46	64	+6	1.36	5	23.14	+2.63	92	+56
Dickson_AG	83	47	66	+4	1.17	4	17.65	-2.07	114	+21
Dover_1W	87	44	67	+6	1.95	3	18.66	-0.80	115	+51
Dyersburg	86	55	70	+5	0.26	2	13.89	-4.26	157	+24
Erwin_1W	80	46	65	+8	1.45	3	17.53	+1.45	65	+7
Huntingdon_Wate	85	47	68	+6	0.42	2	17.30	-1.80	139	+65
Jackson_AG	86	53	70	+6	0.33	1	13.37	-5.73	153	+50
Kingston_AG	83	48	66	+6	1.01	4	21.53	+0.28	90	+47
Knoxville_AP	83	48	67	+7	0.19	3	20.13	+2.58	117	+59
Lewisburg	85	40	66	+5	1.08	3	17.52	-2.44	113	+51
Lexington_TN	85	46	68	+5	0.78	2	17.15	-1.33	125	+101
Linden	85	46	67	+6	0.56	1	21.70	+1.13	117	+41
Martin	86	53	69	+7	0.24	1	15.12	-3.80	138	+52
Mc_Minnville_Tn	85	46	67	+5	0.41	1	17.51	-2.00	139	+24
Memphis_AG	88	52	71	+5	0.39	1	15.92	-3.75	168	+2
Milan	87	49	69	+7	0.54	1	17.41	-1.87	149	+62
Murfreesboro_5N	85	45	67	+5	0.50	3	18.12	-0.81	120	-25
Nashville_Metro	85	48	68	+6	0.40	2	17.83	+0.58	151	+55
Newcomb	85	42	64	+7	1.53	4	21.88	+2.88	82	+60
Oneida	83	43	64	+7	0.48	3	19.84	+0.84	74	-18
Pikeville	84	44	66	+4	0.80	2	20.78	+0.57	112	+47
Portland_TN	84	45	66	+6	0.52	3	17.24	-1.06	104	+48
Pulaski_Water_P	85	46	67	+3	1.39	3	23.46	+2.96	126	+17
Savannah_6SW	85	48	67	+2	1.04	1	20.98	-0.66	104	+24
Sparta_TN	85	44	67	+6	0.03	1	20.94	+1.10	134	+86
Springfield	86	48	66	+6	0.43	3	14.83	-2.95	114	+59
Springhill	86	47	68	+7	0.57	3	21.04	+0.62	140	+79
Union_City	85	46	68	+6	0.55	2	17.47	-1.16	112	+33
Waynesboro_TN	86	42	66	+6	0.70	1	22.07	+0.21	112	+23

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).    GDD = Growing Degree Days.  
 Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.    Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.  
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